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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Virtual Library

The new web based library catalogue is now available to the public. Library users may now review their account, seeing all the items they have on loan, renew books, place holds directly on a title and cancel holds. Other library catalogues are also available for searching and include a streamlined interlibrary loan request procedure.

Smart Communities

The Smart Libraries project, in cooperation with WCRL is almost ready for public use. Development will continue over the next two funding years of the project. The site may be viewed at **http://www.valleylibrary.ca**. The official launch of the site has been set for May 31, 2002 and will take place in the Digby Branch Library of WCRL.

Community Access Program (CAP)

The CAP program will provide seven AVRL branch libraries with youth staff who will provide one-on-one computer tutorials over the next several months.

Branch Services Report, April 2002

March Break branch activities included *Al Bernard's Magic Show* at both the Annapolis Royal and Kentville branches; *Mermaid Theatre Puppet-Making Workshop* at the Kentville Library; an *Interactive Drumming Workshop* at the Wolfville Memorial Library; and *Make-Your-Own Model Railroad Workshops*

at the Wolfville Memorial Library. Wolfville Memorial Library offered three weekly story times throughout the January-March period, with the occasional special adult story time for the *L'Arche Homefires* residents, mentally/physically challenged adults. Kentville Branch staff have organized *Circle of Readers*, a monthly adult book discussion group. On April 9, a *Landscape Smart* presentation was given with a guest presenter from the Kingstec Horticultural program. Windsor Branch has begun a monthly *Kids' Book Club* for children in grades 4-6. Children are invited to read two of three pre-selected titles and join the group for discussion and activities. This group was formed at the suggestion of those children who took part in the *Hackmatack Children's Choice Award*.

Applications for summer grants have been made for Annapolis Royal, Kentville/Port Williams, Wolfville and Windsor Branch Libraries. The *Friends Group* in Middleton will make their own application for a Middleton student. These employees would develop and offer programming and help promote the provincial Summer Reading Program theme.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

Library Card Month a Success!

CBRL's fourth annual Library Card Month in March broke another record! Library card registrations for this period were the highest they have been for one month in more than twenty years! The original goal for Library Card Month was to increase library membership by 1,500 during March, but the number of registrations reached 1,599! The success of this project was due in a large part to the continued support of the Cape Breton Post, who acted as a major sponsor of this library promotion. The support included coverage throughout March in the newspaper, as well as prizes for draws at the end of the month. Also helpful was the library display at the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles hockey game where, between periods, 74 people registered for cards.

CBRL recently received an invitation to address the student body of Thompson Junior High, North Sydney to tell them about the library. This was one of CBRL's first presentations on library services to a junior high school audience. The successful presentations to the ten classes were kept short, fifteen minute per class and Power Point was used to help engage the students.

The program room at the McConnell Library, Sydney has been used extensively this winter, both for library programs, as well as for private use. CBRL's winter programs offered sessions on a variety of topics which included Tradition/Digital Photography; Cooking for One or Two, Personal Computer Maintenance, and Reiki. The winter session began in January and continues until mid-May, with sessions scheduled every week.

Lisa MacKenzie, Promotions Manager for the Cape Breton Post and Ian MacIntosh, Regional Librarian for the Cape Breton Regional Library draw for Library Card Month prizes.

Some students from St. Mary's Elementary School in North Sydney hold up their library cards. The school reached 100% library membership during March!

In conjunction with Library Card Month at CBRL, staff members Lisa Mulak-MacPhee and Theresa MacDonald visited various Grade Four classes throughout the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board. Grade Four is a wonderfully receptive audience!

The University College of Cape Breton often uses the program room at the McConnell Library to launch new releases from UCCB Press. Jill Rodgers, author, and Victoria Baldwin, illustrator, sign copies of their book *The Secret in the Seed* at their successful launch.

The bulletin board located behind the Main Desk at the McConnell Library was designed by staff members Bev McGee and Lisa Mulak-MacPhee to celebrate Canada Book Day, April 23rd. Various Canadian authors are listed and their names placed geographically on the map according to place of birth.

Also to celebrate Canada Book Day, local children's author Sandra Dunn visited the library. She read from her book *Orville Wonders Why* to Grade 3 children from Harbourside Elementary. Sandra gets a helping hand from the Screaming Eagles mascot, Screech.

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

Over the past few weeks Beth Clinton, the CURL's new Assistant Librarian, has visited all of the branches in Cumberland County and is being trained by the Provincial Library on various MultiLIS

applications.

Magic Shows featuring Al Bernard were held in the Amherst and Springhill branches and attracted a large and enthusiast audience. Computer training sessions continue to be popular and funding through the LMDA program is under review so that the region may continue to offer classes for another year.

Staff from CURL headquarters and the Amherst branch are preparing for an Open House at the Cumberland County Municipal office on April 30. The Open House is designed to highlight public services offered throughout the Municipality.

To celebrate Canada Book Day on April 23, CURL's Chief Librarian and Assistant Librarian visited Sir Charles Tupper Elementary School to promote Canadian authors and to showcase some favorite children's books.

Eastern Counties Regional Library (CEHRL)

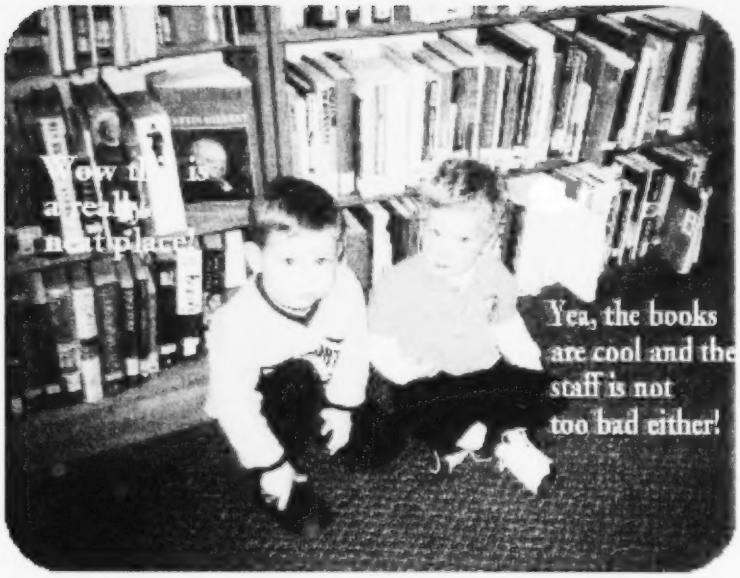
Spring Has Sprung In The Branch Libraries!

Mulgrave Branch started their Spring Pre-School story time on April 22 which will continue until June 3. This is a six week program consisting of a half hour of reading, songs and crafts offered to children ages three to five on Monday mornings from 10:00 to 10:30. To keep the interest high, the program will close with a picnic!

Cyril Ward Memorial Library in Guysborough has seen a 53% increase in circulation during the past 12 months. This increase is due in part to the successful promotion of the *Adopt-A-Library Program*, hosted by the RCMP, made possible by a large donation by Sable Gas Company. Fifty-six children have signed up for the program, received 107 prizes and read 642 books since January 2002.

Canso Library continues to draw enthusiastic children to the story hours offered by the staff. When *Pinocchio* is the book of choice, library staff lend their creative flair to designing noses! Each of the children get to make and wear their own nose as the story unfolds. Pre-school story hours in Canso have been a success and the program concluded on April 29.

Canso library staff show off their noses!



Two of the participants of the Canso story hour share aisle space!

Port Hawkesbury hosted Thelma Morris Fogarty during the *Spring Reading Festival* held during March Break. Thelma brought along her spinning wheel and props and entertained a group of adults and children with her reading of *Licorice and the Brown Sweater*. After a rendition of *Baa Baa Black Sheep*, Thelma demonstrated how to card and spin wool into yarn, and then how to turn it into clothing. On May 11, the Sherbrooke Library will host the book release of Thelma's second book, *Freckles and the Chicks*.

Thelma Morris Fogarty is surrounded by children and the tools of the trade!

Coady-Tompkins Library staff attended a recent pre-school fair at Cape Breton Highlands Education Centre in Terre Noire, Inverness County. Future grade primary students visited the booth which included lots of *Franklin* and *Arthur* books and videos. The children were given pencils, bookmarks, stickers, and the opportunity to become a member of the library.

The Petit de Grat Library hosted Elaine Ingalls Hogg during the *Spring Reading Festival*. After the reading, children drew their own pictures of the mischievous Ben, the West Highland White Terrier. These illustrations were then put together into a *Ben Nevis* album which will be left at the library for the children to borrow.

Elaine Ingalls Hogg shares the story of Ben Nevis with children in Petit de Grat.

Halifax Regional Library (HRL)

Keshen Goodman Library Awarded Lieutenant Governor Design Award

HRL is pleased to announce that its flagship branch, the recently opened Keshen Goodman Library, has been chosen as a winning design to receive one of five Lieutenant Governor's

Design Awards. The architecture firms responsible for the library's design, Urbana Architects Corporation in association with MacFawn & Rogers Architects Ltd., will receive an Award of Merit for what the jury described as "Well sited, a clear organization strongly expressed, an architectural concept rigorously detailed resulting in bright, delightful spaces, an elegant and sophisticatedly detailed solution."

The winning designs will be on display at Halifax's Mary E. Black Gallery from April 26 - June 1. The actual awards ceremony will take place at Government House at a later date.

It's Never Too Early For *Baby's First Books!*

Infant Literacy Programs "Bloom" This Spring At HRL

HRL has received funding from Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) to develop and implement a series of *Baby's First Books* infant literacy programs at library locations throughout the region. The grant, approximately $17,000, will pay the salary for a program coordinator for 23 weeks and will also provide program materials, such as infant appropriate toys and books. Four library locations will offer the programs in May to June 2002 and another four libraries in July to August.

The programs are designed for newborn infants to children two years and an adult care giver. The focus of the sessions will be on stories, songs and rhymes designed to develop the early literacy and language skills that are so crucial to later academic and social success. The programs also promote positive adult-child interaction and will give parents and care givers resources to do follow-up activities at home. Research has proven that a child's greatest potential for brain development is between infancy and age three. Programs such as *Baby's First Books* provide that critical stimulation and set young minds on the road, not just to reading, but to overall healthy development.

A second part of this project will be the development of a program model and training materials, which will enable library staff to begin delivering these programs on a long term, sustainable basis in the fall of 2002.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

PARL was the setting for a unique author reading and fashion show on Friday, April 19. Authors Kris Wood and Pat Wilson of the *Frenchy's Connection* were in PARL's Program Room to share their secrets of shopping in Nova Scotia's many used clothing stores. The consummate professional speakers operated like a tag-team comedy act, keeping the audience in stitches for over two hours. Adding to the night, a dozen volunteers and staff members acted as models, showing off their fashion finds as they strolled down the improvised catwalk.

No, it's not Dame Edna, but PARL's very own Peggy Hiscock (Finance and Fundraising Officer) and *Frenchy's Connection* author Pat Wilson.

Pat (left) is commenting on the iridescent sequined dress that Peggy wore (right) during the recent Frenchy's fashion show and author reading.

To mark National Poetry Day in Canada, PARL hosted an open mike night for local poets. With Antigonish author and poet Jeanette Lynes as emcee, the night was a great success! To add to the coffee house atmosphere, local musicians Sue Walsh and Crystal Mann, and Dave Fogerty performed.

The committee for *Read By the Sea* announced the author line-up for this year's festival in River John. Authors slated for readings are Herb Curtis, Lynn Coady, Anne Simpson and Leo McKay Jr. Previous authors who have taken part in this festival include Donna Morrissey, Alistair MacLeod and George Elliott Clarke. This one-of-a-kind literacy festival takes place on Nova Scotia's north shore Saturday, July 20.

Bernice Cameron and Dianna Wallis of PARL's CAP office will mark National Information Technology week in May with a display set up in a local mall. Staff will promote CAP services and answer questions. Additional CAP site news included a CAP site grand opening by the Pictou Landing First Nations on May 2, as well as the final Provincial grand opening at the Ward One Recreation Center CAP site on May 4.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

Lunenburg Library Expansion

The Lunenburg Library renovation is underway! During the renovation the Library will be closed and Lunenburg patrons will be serviced by the mobile branch. Town Staff and the public have been overwhelmingly supportive during the renovation process. Library friends have donated over $2,000 to the *Support our Books* campaign by purchasing a 'Buy a shelf' for $50, or

bookends for $12, and having their names or the name of someone they choose on a shelf nameplate.

Author Readings

Children's author Frances Wolfe will visit the Lunenburg Library Branch on Monday, May 27 from 3 to 4 pm. Ms. Wolfe will discuss her book *Where I Live* and show the audience the original watercolour paintings that are the basis of the book. Kids from primary to grade three will enjoy watching Ms. Wolfe do an original drawing while she talks about the steps involved in creating a children's book.

David Adams Richards will join the staff of SSRL at the Lunenburg Academy on Tuesday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. and at White Point Beach Resort from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for a lunch n' learn session on Wednesday, May 15. The renowned author will talk about, and read from his book *Mercy Among the Children*. Tickets may be purchased at the Liverpool Branch.

Calling all teens! Teen author Eric Walters will join the staff of SSRL at the Lunenburg Academy on Friday, May 17 from 1:15 to 2:15 pm. Mr. Walters is the author of *Three on Three, Full Court Press* and *Hoop Crazy* as well as the *Money Pit Mystery*, which is nominated for the 2002 Hackmatack Award. All three author readings are funded by the Canada Council.

Frances Anderson to Retire

One of SSRL's longstanding employees is leaving. Frances Anderson, who has worked at SSRL for 23 years, will retire June 1, 2002. When asked to write a brief biography for *The Disseminator*, she responded with the following "Dal library school grad 1979; first and last library job: South Shore Regional Library. Plans to drive off into the sunset on her Virago 750, unless someone gives her a Harley as a retirement present..."

That about sums it up except for a few things it doesn't mention. It doesn't mention her love of libraries or the intelligence and diligence with which she's done her job for 23 years. It doesn't mention her regard for the patrons SSRL serves. It doesn't mention the changes she's spearheaded or participated in, such as the two Branch moves in Bridgewater, the addition of Liverpool to the system in 1981, several threatened closures and cutbacks, automation of the entire system and now a new, expanded Library Branch in Lunenburg, which will open May 3. It doesn't mention her leadership skills, her ability to get things done well with little money or her ability to grab a screwdriver and fix whatever it is that needs fixing. It doesn't mention how she always keeps a jar of peanut butter handy, 'cause you just never know when you'll need it, or how she likes sparkly clothes and puppies. It doesn't mention how she's treated her fellow staff members with respect and appreciation, how she's been a part of pot lucks and staff parties, or how, by her very presence, she's helped to make SSRL Headquarters a good place to spend time every day.

But most of all, it doesn't mention how much the Staff of SSRL admire and respect her as a librarian, a supervisor and a friend. Farewell Frances. We wish you well as you ride off into the sunset with your leather chaps to begin a new chapter in your life. We'll miss you.

Frances Anderson is retiring after over 20 years at the Shouth Shore Regional Library to do one of her favourite things!

The picture here is of Frances when she started at SSRL as Bookmobile/ Technical Services Librarian in the spring of 1979. (Note the record albums on the shelf behind her!)

Frances Anderson has joined the staff at South Shore Regional Library. Ms. Anderson is a recent graduate of the Dalhousie School of Library Service, and winner of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Award for most promising graduate of 1979. Prior to attending library school, Ms Anderson lived for a number of years near Pugwash, N.S. She replaces Patrick Mexham as supervisor of bookmobiles and technical services. Mr. Mexham will be attending the Atlantic School of Theology in September.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Fundraising: *ADOPT-A-BOOK*

The *Adopt-A-Book* campaign, held every two years, was launched on Friday, April 5. A variety show featuring several dance troupes, ballet, jazz and Acadian dance, added excitement to the kick-off. CJLS radio station, sponsor of *Adopt-A-Book*, conducted a remote broadcast from the lobby of the Yarmouth library for two hours prior to the launch. Bookmetere updates are released every Friday morning. As of April 19, 293 books were in adopted. The goal is to have 1000 books adopted by June 28.

Part of the opening ceremonies included the unveiling of the library quilt. The quilt consists of twelve bookshelves containing a total of 196 'books'. For every $100. worth of books adopted individuals or businesses can have their name embroidered on the spine of a book. To date 29 names are listed for embroidery.

Left to right: Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin, Public Relations Manager, WCRL, and CJLS radio announcer Sean McLellan doing a remote broadcast from the lobby of the Yarmouth library on April 5th (launch day.)

The new Adopt-A-Book logo is in the top left corner.

Grants

The IWK Health Centre Foundation External Grant Program, recently awarded a $10,000 grant to WCRL to develop and implement an infant and toddler literacy program for branches in Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth counties. The grant will enable the library to provide books and library materials specific to this age group, as well as activities including parents/care-givers to promote language acquisitions and literacy skills in their children. Funds will also be allocated for the purchase of story time mats, rocking chairs, and to provide staff training.

The Yarmouth County Community Health Board Wellness Fund has granted $300 to WCRL to conduct a program on assertiveness training and self defense for young women. The programs will be presented in Yarmouth and Pubnico branch libraries by Constable Mario Ross.

Author Visits

Up and coming Nova Scotia author Linda Little, author of *Strong Hollow* made a guest appearance at the Yarmouth Library on Tuesday, April 16. Her visit was co-sponsored by the Yarmouth Thursday Morning Book Club. David Richard Adams, one of Canada's most well-known

and well-read authors, will be at the Yarmouth Library on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m. Adams received the Governor General's Award for Fiction in 2000 for his book *Mercy Among the Children*. The visit is in cooperation with SSRL.

Maxine Trottier, children's author and nominee for the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award, will be at the Digby Library on Wednesday May 15 at 6 p.m. and will visit the Yarmouth Library on Thursday May 16. She will read from her book *Dreamstones* . Maxine's visit is made possible through a Canada Council Grant for the Arts.

WCRL Providing Library Service In Cuba!

Here's a little story from Edith Bower from the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne:

I traveled to Cuba with several people from the Shelburne area. It turned out that we were staying at the same resort. A week later one of the young ladies, (whom I have known for a number of years through the library) approached me with a book she had borrowed from the Shelburne branch. She was leaving that day and asked if I would take the book back for her, as she would be going back to University in Halifax and not returning to Shelburne for some time. By the time she got back to Shelburne with it ,the book would have been way overdue. Of course I was happy to do this. Even on vacation it seems I am on the job :-)

Edith

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES (SLIS)

The School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Judie Mulholland, effective July 2002. Ms. Mulholland will be cross appointed as lecturer with SLIS's sister School of Public Administration within the Faculty of Management. Ms. Mulholland has a BA and MA in Political Science from York University and a MASc from the University of Waterloo; she is currently completing her PhD in Information Studies at Florida State University. Ms. Mulholland's dissertation examines digital rights management in the environment of electronic commerce. Ms. Mulholland has owned and operated various businesses, including a property management and investment firm, and has worked as a systems analyst and researcher for Petro-Canada and Mashke International. Ms. Mulholland will be teaching courses in the areas of systems analysis, research methods, statistics, and digital forensics.

The SLIS Associated Alumni invites nominations for the Outstanding Alumni Award. This award honours a member of the Associated Alumni who has made an outstanding contribution to Library and Information Studies. Marilyn Rennick (Class of 1976), Government Information Specialist at the University of Ottawa Library, was the first recipient of this prestigious award given in 2000. The deadline date for nominations is June 1, 2002. Full details for eligibility, criteria for nominations, and an online nomination form are available at www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis/PeopleGroups/alumni/outstanding.html.

Future columns will highlight other projects ongoing at the School. For further information about these or any other SLIS activities and Programs contact the Director, Bertrum MacDonald, at macdonal@is.dal.ca, (902) 494-2472 or visit the web site at: http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES

TEAM LIBRARYNET VISITS UK

A team representing Canadian libraries visited London, England, March 25-28 to examine Prime Minister Tony Blair's *UK Online*. *UK Online* is a major push to get people, business, and government in the UK online. Team LibraryNet studied the cost-efficient delivery of electronic commerce and e-governme , which are key initiatives of both governments. Over the past five years, the Canadian Government, in partnership with the provinces, has provided electronic access infrastructure through more than 3,000 public libraries; the UK Government will have connected 4,3000 public libraries by the end of 2002. One year ago, the two countries signed an agreement to co-operate on these important initiatives.

Members of Team LibraryNet included leader Steve Salmons, CEO, Windsor Public Library, Diane Bays, Senior Policy Advisor for Industry Canada, Elizabeth Armstrong, Nova Scotia's Provincial Librarian, Josephine Bryant, City Librarian, Toronto Public Library, Jim Looney, Manager of Technology and Information Services, Library Services Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and Sharon Siga, Library Director, Strathcona County Library, Alberta.

The key to delivery of Canadian e-government and e-commerce is to reach the almost 50% of the population without electronic access. During the four-day visit with British library and government officials, the Canadian team studied the roles of government, libraries and other partners in e-commerce and e-government to determine what will help Canada effectively provide people with access to information and government services, and how this access can be developed as a vehicle for public policy at the national, provincial and local levels. They examined existing delivery models, possible joint pilot projects, training issues, public acceptance, best practices, and possible linkage with the European Union.

Canada and the UK recognize the need for international harmonization of e-commerce policies and both countries place a high priority on transforming the way their governments deliver services by adopting innovative, on-line services. By sharing information, best practices and experiences in implementing e-government, Canada and the UK will ensure citizens in both countries will benefit from more effective and efficient government service delivery.

A Team LibraryNet report detailing findings and recommendations will be to be presented to Industry Canada shortly.

REFERENCE CONTACTS MEETING

Sharing web links and adding databases for youth were the highlights of the Reference Contacts meeting on April 12. A small group was formed to propose terms of reference for a project that would see all regional libraries cooperating on a shared list of links to web sites. The focus will be on Nova Scotia sites, rather than duplicating large lists like the BC Virtual Reference Desk www.bcpl.gov.bx.ca/VRD. One gap in the selection of electronic databases licensed by regional libraries has been a product aimed at youth in middle school and below. Trial access to some of these products will be arranged by Provincial Library staff, followed by an evaluation session to choose one product. Due to price increases, the online version of *Books in Print* has not been renewed.

VIRTUAL REFERENCE SERVICES: WHAT, WHY AND HOW? TELECONFERENCE

Several members of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library attended the two-part teleconference series, entitled: *VIRTUAL REFERENCE SERVICES : What, Why and How?* broadcast from the College of DuPage, and hosted locally by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. The series looked at issues related to moving face-to-face reference services to a virtual environment. During the first session, broadcast February 8, panelists examined the challenges inherent in providing reference services to the growing number of clients who access library services remotely. These challenges included exploring how reference services are offered, assessing current reference service needs and meeting these changing needs within the virtual environment. All agreed that it is an opportunity for libraries to re-think how reference services are offered and to look at process re-engineering to effectively implement virtual services.

The second session, broadcast April 19, focused on the practical considerations involved in moving from a "real" to a "virtual" environment. Panelists looked at existing virtual reference services and highlighted various consortia which have successfully implemented these services on a regional, national and international scale. This included a description of *QuestionPoint: Collaborative Reference Service*, developed jointly by the Library of Congress and OCLC, which consists of over 260 libraries and consortia from around the world working together to provide virtual reference services on a 24 x 7 basis. During the session panelists demonstrated some of the features of the virtual reference services offered at their libraries and discussed such issues as access to licensed electronic databases, copyright, role of support staff, marketing the service, interoperability of software, and the importance of co-operation and collaboration amongst libraries.

Video recordings of the teleconferences can be borrowed via ILL from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. To search NSPL's *Professional Development Collection* go to http://ncompass.library.ns.ca/html/english.html and click on Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

CASLIS TRAIN THE TRAINER

***Train the Trainer*, a half day course, was held at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library on April 22. The course was co-sponsored by CASLIS and NSPL, and presented by Pam Williams and Susanna Burns of Henson College.**

The three hour course focussed on the program planning process for training delivery. This process consists of five distinct, though interconnected, parts: Needs Assessment, Objectives, Lesson Planning, Delivery, and Evaluation and Feedback.

The process was addressed according to its individual segments, and a mock training scenario was used throughout the morning to illustrate how the five parts work together to achieve the most effective training experience possible. Within each segment, the attendees were taught the benefits and techniques relevant to that topic, and then applied the newly learned ideas/practices to the training scenario.

Pam and Susanna encouraged an open discussion of ideas, questions, and problems, and provided excellent instruction/facilitation throughout the morning.

COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA 2002 SPRING CONFERENCE

The Council of Nova Scotia Archives 2002 Spring Conference called *Scanning the Past: Digitization and Preservation in Archives* took place April 18 - 20 at the Mount Saint Vincent Mother house in Halifax. The three day conference consisted of two, two-day concurrent workshops available on preservation or digitization. This was followed by a presentation on day three, which was common to both workshops, called *Digitization and Preservation: Planning and Managing your Digitization Projects*.

Bernadette Kennedy and Gillian Webster from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, as well as Roger Lloyd from Learning Resources and Technology, attended the *Digitizing Images for your Archives or Museum* workshop.

Jim Fox and Diane Bowden, both from the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), and Owen Bannerman, owner of Bannerman Photo & Studio, conducted the two-day workshop. CHIN's mission statement is to: "Broker effective access to Canadian and international heritage information for public education and enjoyment and for the collective benefit of Canadian museums." For example, CHIN works with the Canadian museum community to develop heritage knowledge in electronic format by making live and on-line presentations on current topics. Their website can be found at http://www.chin.gc.ca.

The aim of the two-day workshop was to cover the basic information needed to plan for and establish a digitization program. The presenters covered planning for such essentials as selecting material, communicating with your audience, copyright on the material, budgeting, establishing project requirements such as equipment and staffing, and implementing the project.

Many of the organizations attending were small. Therefore, participants were glad to hear that selecting strategies which best meet their organization's current and future requirements need not mean huge, expensive projects. One section of the workshop was a hands-on session with Owen Bannerman, who helped participants make the best use of scanning and photo editing equipment.

Day three of the conference saw Brian Thurgood, Acting Manager of the Digital Projects Section, Preservation Branch, National Archives of Canada (NAC) present an overview of NAC's digital projects. The National Archives is working with the National Library and other partners to use the Internet as a primary vehicle for delivering services to Canadians. The aim of this presentation was to introduce the steps and issues involved with collecting, storing and accessing digitized images on computers.

Brian informed the group that CHIN and the Library of Congress have guides, case studies and lists of standards which are all helpful ways of reaching management decisions. For example, visit the Library of Congress' *American Memory* site at http://memory.loc.gov.

The three day conference gave participants the opportunity to exchange thoughts as well as have fun. For current awareness on activities and operations of the Council of Nova Scotia Archives, CNSA, go to www.councilofnsarchives.ca; the website of the Council of Canadian Archives is at

http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRINTING IN CANADA

NOVA-SCOTIA. No. 1.

THE

Halifax GAZETTE.

On March 23, 1752, John Bushell printed the first copy of the *Halifax Gazette* in his shop on Grafton Street in downtown Halifax. This marked the beginning of printing in Canada. The 250th anniversary of this event was recently celebrated in Halifax during the weekend of March 23-25.

It was standing room only on March 23 at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia as Dr. Patricia Fleming, Project Director of the History of the Book in Canada Project, spoke on *Print and the people in eighteenth century Halifax*. This was followed by a re-enactment of the printing of the first newspaper in the Chase Exhibition Room. National Librarian Roch Carrier said that he hoped that as millions of Canadians opened their newspapers that morning, they would take a minute and think about that day 250 years ago when 90 people in Halifax did the same. Joe Landry and Caitlin Erskine-Smith, dressed in period costume, operated the press, assisted by M. Carrier and representatives of all three levels of government.

The Dawson Print Shop held an open house throughout the afternoon, giving many people their first opportunity to see this interesting facility.

On Monday evening Dr. Bill Bell, General Editor of the *History of the Book in Scotland Project* presented an illustrated talk entitled *On Crusoe's Island: imagining the colonial reader.*

In other related events:

- Stephen Kimber was commissioned by the National Library of Canada to write the story of John Bushell and the first newspaper.

- The Mary Black Gallery hosted an exhibit entitled *The handbound book in Nova Scotia.*

- **A special edition of the East Coast Reader was issued to mark the occasion.**

- **A facsimile of the first issue of the *Halifax Gazette* was produced by the National Library of Canada. Copies will be distributed to all Nova Scotia public libraries.**

- **The Yarmouth branch of WCRL created a display entitled *Canada's first newspaper: 250th anniversary*, featuring the August 1823 issue of the *Yarmouth Herald and Western Advertiser*.**

An exhibit on Canadian newspapers will open in June at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia. At that time there will be additional events to mark the occasion. For more information on the anniversary, or if you would like copies of the facsimile, please contact Michael Colborne at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, colbormb@gov.ns.ca, or (902) 424-4852.

HACKMATACK UPDATE

The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, Myra Freeman, will be the official patron of the *Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award*. The Hackmatack committee will be inviting the lieutenant governors of the other Atlantic Provinces to consider becoming patrons of the program.

This year the Hackmatack Ceremony will take place May 18, 2002, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth and is open to the public. Monetta Robichaud will emcee the bilingual ceremony, while children from local Hackmatack reading groups will introduce the authors on stage and present the awards to the winners. Tattletales Books, Ltd., located in Penhorn Mall, Dartmouth, will be on hand selling listed Hackmatack books. As at previous Hackmatack ceremonies, a local Girl Guide troop will hand out Hackmatack tree seeds, as well as juice and cookies.

For more information on the ceremony and the Hackmatack Children's Choice Award, please check out the web site at http://www.hackmatack.ca/.

SUMMER READING Program (SRP)

An update with graphics, of the 2002 SRP theme of pets and the accompanying slogan *Books, our faithful companions/Les Livres, nos fidPles compagnons* can be viewed at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library's website at http://rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca/children/index.html.

INVITATION TO JOIN NSLA

The Nova Scotia Library Association is extending an invitation to join the hundreds of students, library staff and librarians who are working together to promote library services across Nova Scotia. The benefits of a NSLA membership include :

- **Make contact with other people interested in a variety of library issues.**
- **Subscription to the NSLA newsletter published four times a year.**
- **Access to the NSLA listserv, a forum for discussion and exchanging ideas.**
- **Full voting privileges at the NSLA meetings.**
- **Job postings through the listserv and on the NSLA webpage.**

Student Membership: $10 a year.
Personal Membership: $20 a year.
Institutional membership: $25 a year.

For membership forms and additional information, please visit the NSLA website at http://nsla.ns.ca/membership.html.

CLA CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

CLA/APLA Annual Conference 2002. June 19-22, 2002

Halifax Nova Scotia, World Trade and Convention Centre.

A terrific opportunity to get involved in the national library conference. Meet a host of interesting people, and have some fun. If you are planning on being a conference delegate already, volunteer for a couple of hours and see the conference from a whole new perspective. If you aren't able to attend the whole conference this is a special opportunity to get involved.

If you will be in Halifax, June 19 to June 22.
If you can commit to at least a 2 or 4 hour shift.

Please Volunteer.

A wide range of duties will include:

- **Registering incoming delegates**
- **Offering hospitality information and directions**
- **Monitoring conference sessions**
- **And then there's preparing conference materials, making photocopies, moving chairs and all the stuff that comes up at the last minute**

To volunteer, or for additional information, contact:

CLA 2002 Volunteer Coordinator
Peter Webster
Head of Information Systems
Patrick Power Library
Saint Mary's University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 3C3
e-mail peter.webster@stmarys.ca

CBC RADIO'S *CANADA READS* AND FOCAL'S CHESLEY CHALLENGE

Friends of Canadian Libraries launched a website for the *Canada Reads* promotion, which offers new details of what has become known as the Chesley Challenge. The winning challenger's community will be featured by CBC Radio on Labour Day!
http://www.friendsoflibraries.ca/canadareads.htm

Chesley Area Friends of the Library has issued a challenge to other Friends' groups and libraries across Canada. The challenge centres around the CBC Radio's *Canada Reads* initiative. All Friends' groups and libraries have been asked to monitor how many of their patrons read *In The Skin of a Lion*, by Michael Ondaatje, the book chosen by *Canada Reads*.

Send your mail to FOCAL at focal@friendsoflibraries.ca. Your first message will register you for the challenge, and your final message, due August 31st, 2002 will give the final number of readers you have recorded. Recording can either be in the form of circulation statistics, from those library systems which are automated, or from those who sign the *challenge sheet*. A tally can be found at FOCAL's website at www.friendsoflibraries.ca/canadareads.

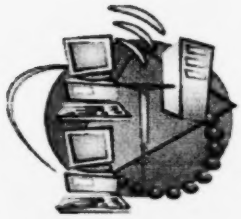
Your final tally will be displayed as a percentage of your population. When you register please provide population statistics. Chesley Friends have volunteered to handle this project, so mail will be forwarded to them.

The winning community will be featured by CBC Radio on Labour Day.

Jami van Haaften, President, Friends of Canadian Libraries
focal@friendsoflibraries.ca

Susan Fawcett, Treasurer, Chesley Area Friends of the Library
silkpurse.farm@sympatico.ca.

REFERENCE ON THE NET



Here are some more reference questions referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries. They were answered using resources found on the Internet.

Q. The patron wants finding aids for births, deaths and marriages in Nova Scotia.

A. *The Checklist of Indexes to Canadian Newspapers Held by the National Library of Canada* at http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/12/r12-1061-e.html on the National Library's website has a Nova Scotia section which lists a number of indexes which index vital statistics in newspapers from various periods of the 18th to the 20th centuries. Many of these indexes can be borrowed from the National Library. Looking for Your Family...? at http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/gene/looking.htm on the web site of Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management has descriptions of their research tools, many of which index births, deaths and marriages in Nova Scotia. These can be used in the Archives for genealogical research.

Q. The patron wants information about the machines used in processing hemp, flax and cotton.

A. At the U.S. National Agricultural Library's AGRICOLA Database http://www.nal.usda.gov/ag98/, search the Journal Article Citation Index section using the keywords machine, machines, machinery or equipment in combination with hemp, flax and cotton to locate articles on this. Another site worth searching is the Agriculture Network Information Center at http://www.agnic.org/ where quality agricultural information on the Internet has been selected by the U.S. National Agricultural Library, Universities, and other institutions. A full text article *Cotton Picker Management and Harvesting Efficiency* from the Clemson University web site was found here.

LINKed

This month's Linked column features some children's web sites which are geared to the 2002 Summer Reading Program theme which is pets, with the accompanying slogan *Books, our faithful companions/Les Livres, nos fidPles compagnons*. There are sites with information on caring for animals and lists of books about pets, as well as some great sites with animated stories and games based on characters in children's books.

How to Love Your Dog: A Kid's Guide to Dog Care at http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Estates/1210/ is by Janet Wall, a teacher and owner of some beautiful collies who are featured on the site. One of the collies, Cody, has a book club page at http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Estates/1210/bookclub.html.

where there is a list of books about dogs with reviews by kids who have read them. Near the bottom of the page there is Cody's List of Great Dog Books and Cody's Terrific Book Reports from Kids. The site also has Your Poetry & Your Stories sections, Riddles and lots of information on caring for dogs.

Pet of the Day at http://www.petoftheday.com/ has a picture and information about a different pet each day. These are sent in by pet owners. There are also Dog of the Day http://DogoftheDay.com/ and Cat of the Day http://CatoftheDay.com/ sites.

Books about animals and pets are listed on the Animal Stories page of the Seminole County Public Library System, Florida at http://www.scpl.lib.fl.us/kids/kids_critters.html. There are links to kids reviews for some of the stories listed here.

The Abby & Tess Pet-Sitters Club at http://www.abbyandtess.com/ was produced by Lobster Press Ltd., the publisher of The Abby and Tess Pet-Sitters series books by Trina Wiebe. After guessing the secret password, kids are entertained with games, activities, jokes and the Favorite Pet Contest.

The Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County, North Carolina's Pre-School Library Presents Pets page at http://www.storyplace.org/preschool/preschool.asp?themeid=13 has a delightful and colourful animated online story 'The Perfect Pet", an online activity, directions for making a puppy puppet and a pets reading list. Other story themes in the Pre-School Library are available at http://www.storyplace.org/preschool/other.asp and in the Elementary Library at http://www.storyplace.org/eel/eel.asp.

Clifford the Big Red Dog at http://pbskids.org/clifford/ is based on the Clifford books by Norman Bridwell which also inspired the Clifford the Big Red Dog™ TV show. This is a very entertaining animated site with stories about Clifford, printable colouring pages, cut-outs and games. It is produced by Scholastic and is part of the PBS Kids site http://pbskids.org/.

ASPCA Animaland at http://www.animaland.org/ is operated by The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Inc. It is an entertaining site with pet care information for children. An animated cat, parrot, rabbit and dog at the top of each page follow the movements of the mouse around the screen. The Cartoon section has amusing animated tips on handling hamsters and goldfish.

Web sites which were featured in previous "Linked" columns are now arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/reference/index.html. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

Credits go to:

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http://www.library.ns.ca/publications/disseminator/

Comments on or suggestions for The Disseminator should be directed to Arlene Watts at **wattsam@gov.ns.ca**

If you would like to be notified when new issues of The Disseminator are published, please subscribe to The Disseminator mailing list at:

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